

**Arizona Broadband Development Council (ABDC)
Summary of Minutes - Public Meeting**

Thursday, September 29, 2011

Not Yet Approved by the Council

ABDC Voting Members Present

- Aaron Sandeen, State CIO & Deputy Director, ADOA-ASET (Chairman)
- Susan Anable, Cox Communications (*sitting in for Hyman Sukiennik*)
- Robert Burns, Former Arizona State Senator
- Teri Drew, Northern Arizona Council of Governments
- Jodie Filardo, Town of Clarkdale (by remote connection)
- Michael Keeling, Data-Site Consortium, Inc.
- Mark Masterson, Arizona Department of Education (*designee for the Honorable John Huppenthal*)
- Tom McCloud, Intel Corporation
- Michele Norin, The University of Arizona
- Dr. Alan Pitt, Barrow Neurological Institute
- Floyd Roehrich, Arizona Department of Transportation (*designee for Director John Halikowski*)
- James Simms, CenturyLink, Inc.
- Craig Sullivan, County Supervisors Association of Arizona
- Daman Wood, Airband
- Emerson Yearwood, Cable One, Inc.
- Steven Zylstra, Arizona Technology Council

ABDC Voting Members Absent

- Michael Bernstein, Simply Bits, LLC
- Leroy Shingoitewa, Hopi Tribe
- Hyman Sukiennik, Cox Communications
- Kelly Udall, Town of Pinetop-Lakeside

Arizona Strategic Enterprise Technology (ASET) Office Attendees

- Michael Golden, Director, Arizona Broadband Project, ASET
- Galen Updike, Broadband Development Manager, ASET
- Jeffrey Crane, Project Manager, ASET
- Eric Thomas, Project Manager, ASET

Meeting Presenters

- Galen Updike, Broadband Development Manager, ASET
- Michael Golden, Director, Arizona Broadband Project, ASET
- Gary Irish, CIO, Arizona State Land Department
- Michael Keeling, President, Data-Site Consortium, Inc.

Approximately 41 interested parties and members of the public were also present.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:05 PM by Chairman Aaron Sandeen, State CIO and Deputy Director ADOA-ASET. Chairman Sandeen introduced himself and shared introductory comments on the Council. A silent roll call was taken by Mr. Jeffrey Crane, ASET Project Manager, while Council members introduced themselves. After introductions were completed, a quorum of the ABDC was declared present.

Introductory Background Presentation on ABDC

Presenters: Mr. Galen Updike, Arizona Broadband Development Manager (ASET)

Mr. Michael Golden, Director, Broadband Planning (ASET)

Information Item

Mr. Updike presented a brief ARRA background and illustrated gaps in Arizona fiber connections which are exacerbated with the increase in data transmission instead of only voice. The current lack of redundancy was highlighted. Mr. Golden illustrated that Arizona metro areas are well served while problems exist in rural areas. Broadband capacity is an essential infrastructure. The concept of 2 highways for (almost) the price of one was mentioned. Half the cost and two-thirds the time is spent in obtaining permits and easements. The need for a Broadband Infrastructure Authority to standardize processes was mentioned. The need to define Rural Highway (as opposed to an Urban Highway) was mentioned. Applications such as education and healthcare are strong driver requirements for broadband capacity.

Approval of ABDC Framework, Operating Principles, and Mission Statement Document

ABDC Chairman – State CIO & ADOA Deputy Director, Aaron Sandeen

Chairman Sandeen postponed the approval of the proposed Council formation documents until members had the opportunity to further review and consider the wording and guidance delineated therein. The approval of these documents has been pushed to the next ABDC meeting. Discussion points regarding the mission statement in particular included: James Simms would like to see reference to the fact that the focus is on IP Traffic over the internet, not just Broadband traffic. Steven Zylstra would like to see mention that the retention of business is as important as the creation. James Simms continued this thought mentioning the importance to keeping rural communities whole while avoiding the “brain drain” syndrome. Susan Anable mentioned the need to clarify the definition of Underserved areas. Galen Updike referenced the NTIA definition. Aaron Sandeen asked that the NTIA definition be sent to the Council for consideration. Aaron also asked that the Council define the meaning of rural v. non-rural. Steven Zylstra mentioned the need to determine how the Council can go about the policy making path. Michael Golden mentioned the Council will only be recommending policy. Several members expressed the need and desire to actively advocate for policies. The word ADVOCATE was suggested as being included in the wording.

ABDC Sub-Committees/Groups

Presenter: Mr. Galen Updike, Arizona Broadband Development Manager (ASET)

Information Item

The Sub-Committees is where the focused work will be done. At least 6 different sub-committees task-groups and sub-committees may be formed, including: State Broadband Strategic Plan; Policy, Right of Way and Best Practices; Community Outreach and Economic Development; Broadband Providers Issues and Universal Availability; Broadband for Education and Lifetime Learning; Broadband for Health. The need to be cognizant of the legislative cycle was stressed if we hope to get suggestions considered.

Arizona Broadband Map Activities

Presenter: Mr. Gary Irish, CIO, Arizona State Land Department

Information Item

The Arizona Broadband Map development process was discussed with various screen shots of the current map. Various questions and comments were discussed, including the fact that most of the mapping data

down to the Census Blocks is publicly available.

Policy, barriers and Possible Solutions

Presenter: Mr. Michael Golden, Director, Broadband Planning (ASET)

Mr. Michael Keeling, President, Data-Site Consortium, Inc.

Information and Discussion Item

If Broadband is an essential infrastructure, there are many policies that need to be created (similar to policies for highways, canals, etc. that were accomplished over many years). There are three major policy clusters that can be defined: Establishment of Broadband internet capacity as an essential infrastructure; Reduction of barriers to widespread implementation of broadband internet infrastructure; and Promotion of the restructuring of public processes enabling widespread utilization of broadband internet services for all Arizonans.

Discussion items associated with this presentation included: How will infrastructure that goes beyond the state highways be provided, such as federal easements and ROWs that are not subject to state legislation? It was discussed that ADOT is the steward for federal highways and there are moves at the federal level to build similar infrastructure, hence the State is in sync with the Feds. Steven Zylstra mentioned utilizing the “Information Superhighway” reference as a form of branding the concept. James Simms asked if there are other states which have examples of this policy. Galen Updike mentioned that Maryland, Georgia, and California may be examples. Tom McCloud asked why it is so difficult to get related legislation approved. Michael Golden shared that it is believed some of the past resistance is due to a perceived threat to existing Broadband providers’ competitive advantage. Resistance has dispersed when it is pointed out that this would not affect the urban landscape, but would be focused on the rural areas. Steven Zylstra asked whether the Council should be a recommending or advocating body. It was determined that the Council should advocate, not simply recommend. Dr. Alan Pitt mentioned that applications are important, however, the business model and ROI must be included in order for the applications to be used effectively. Sustainability is important. Michele Norin asked how we can assure we are merging the Council’s initiatives with other State initiatives and activities such as GovNet and the feds. The sharing of resources is contingent on this new infrastructure. Steven Zylstra mentioned the need to commoditize the Paradise Valley School District and LambdaRail experience. Mark Masterson mentioned that time is of the essence in all of this. Floyd Roehrich seconded the statement that time is of the essence, and the importance of the Right of Way policy.

Comments from the Public

Ted Kraver shared that the work of the Council will be a speed issue. Several years have passed without significant progress. Broadband is the key to it all. Advocacy is critical. Another audience member mentioned the importance of creating the ability and allowing teachers and students to get to internet content.

Adjournment

Chairman Sandeen declared the meeting officially adjourned. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 PM.

Minutes of the Arizona Broadband Development Council are recorded. Recorded minutes are maintained by the Arizona Strategic Enterprise Technology Office. Public access and review of ABDC minutes are available by appointment Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Please contact the ASET office at 602-542-2250 to arrange for an audio of the recorded proceedings.